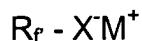


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wherein  $R_f$  is a  $C_5$ - $C_{14}$  (per)fluoroalkyl chain, or a (per)fluoropolyoxyalkylene chain,  $X^-$  is  $-COO^-$  or  $-SO_3^-$ ,  $M^+$  is  $Na^+$  or  $K^+$ , and the initiator is a potassium and/or sodium persulphate, wherein temperature is in the range of  $0^\circ C$  -  $150^\circ C$  and pressure is in the range of 3 - 80 bar.

### REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending. Claims 1-10 are rejected. Claims 2, 4, 5, 6 and 10 are cancelled and claim 1 amended. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the application, for instance in the claims as originally filed. No new matter is added. Claims 1, 3 and 7-9 are submitted for further consideration at this time. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all rejections.

#### Claim Objections

Claim 6 is objected to as allegedly failing to limit the claim from which it depends. Applicants respectfully point out that the objection is moot in light of the cancellation of claim 6 herein. Applicants urge withdrawal of all objections.

#### Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicants respectfully note that the rejection is moot in light of the cancellation of claim 10 herein. Applicants urge that all claims are clear and definite.